(Baltimore County), 301 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204; Douglas S. Tawney, Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks (Baltimore City), 1129 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202; and members of the Boards of Directors of the Parks and Recreation Departments, Baltimore City and Baltimore County.

Approved May 7, 1973.

No. 26

(House Joint Resolution 91)

House Joint Resolution enumerating the outstanding achievements of the Maryland State Police in its life saving Med-Evac Program, commending the Program which has received national attention and requesting that efforts be initiated to expand the Program by acquisition of certain additional equipment.

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Police has done the following:

Established an Aviation Division consisting of three (3) helicopters equipped and manned for handling ambulatory patients on a twenty-four (24) hour per day basis; and

Initiated an aerial ambulance Med-Evac Program operation serving in conjunction with the University of Maryland Hospital Trauma Center; and

Of record, been responsible for the direct saving of 741 lives, where injuries from automobile accidents were considered of pending fatality except for immediate specialized medical treatment; and

Of record, performed rescues and recoveries of injured persons that were impractical with usual land operated ambulances; and

Utilized the helicopter service for traffic control, surveillance and criminal searches all to the great advantage of the community; and

Of record, been responsible for the direct saving of lives of 204 premature babies destined for death unless immediate specialized medical treatment was rendered; and

Conducted a helicopter medical evacuation service in the metropolitan area of Maryland in such an outstanding manner as to receive national attention because of its efficiency and success; a program which serves as a model for the planning of similar programs in other states; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Police has been limited in its operation of the helicopter ambulance Med-Evac Program to the Metropolitan areas of Maryland due to the insufficient number of helicopters; and

The Maryland State Police desires and feels it has the responsibility of expanding the helicopter ambulance service to the counties of Western Maryland, the counties of the Eastern Shore, and the counties of Southern Maryland; and

The Maryland State Police is unable to expand the service due to budgetary problems and lack of available funds; and